

RESULTS ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Monday, May 2, 2022

Town of Sheffield

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The 289th Annual Town Meeting of the Town Sheffield was called to order at 6:05 PM by Moderator William F. Tighe. The opening included the Pledge of Allegiance, introduction of Town Officers, Martin C. Mitsoff, Rene C. Wood and Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., Selectmen; Rhonda LaBombard, Town Administrator; from Kopelman & Paige, Mark Reich, Town Council; Nadine Hawver, Chairman of the Finance Committee; David Macy, Julie Hannum and Kenneth Smith, Finance Committee members. He also recognized First Responders, Fireman and Police officers in attendance. Moderator Tighe then discussed the method of voting for the evening which were electronic devices. Martin Mitsoff offered an overview, with two sample questions. Once the sample questions were completed, Moderator Tighe motioned to dispense with the Town Clerk's reading of the Warrant, it was seconded. (This was a hand count vote). *The motion passed unanimously.*

ARTICLE 1: On a motion by Rene C. Wood, seconded by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., to raise and appropriate \$3,864,946 for the purpose of funding those budgets listed in the Warrant, necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for Fiscal Year 2023. Catherine Miller moved to amend the position of Children's Program Director in the Library budget, it was seconded. "I move to amend Article 1 to add the sum of \$28,182 to the Fiscal Year 2023 Library budget for the purposes of funding a full-time Children's Program Coordinator position." After discussion, Rene C. Wood called the question, seconded. *The vote to move the question was taken and passed by majority vote. The vote to amend the Article passed.* (These two votes were taken by hand count as declared by the Moderator). Discussion on Article 1 amendment continued. *The motion passed by majority.*

Moderator.....	\$ 300
Selectmen's Office.....	\$254,391
Board of Assessors.....	\$121,850
Treasurer/Collector.....	\$120,100
Town Clerk.....	\$ 73,335
Elections & Registration.....	\$ 15,000
Conservation Commission.....	\$ 4,950
Planning Board.....	\$ 5,000
Commission on Disabilities.....	\$ 300
Zoning Board of Appeals.....	\$ 1,200
Town Buildings & Grounds.....	\$153,800
Town Report & Communications.....	\$ 6,500
Legal Services.....	\$ 35,000
Dispatch Services.....	\$ 12,000
Police Department.....	\$622,800
Fire Department.....	\$ 95,000
Inspectional Services.....	\$ 48,665
Fire Hydrants.....	\$ 30,000
Animal Control.....	\$ 14,000
Highway Department.....	\$417,100
Snow Removal.....	\$232,330
Energy.....	\$167,400
Board of Health.....	\$ 46,685
Public Health.....	\$ 4,000
Council on Aging.....	\$141,850
Veterans Benefits.....	\$ 80,000
Library.....	\$255,468*
Historical Commission.....	\$ 750
Memorial Day.....	\$ 1,200
American Legion.....	\$ 500
Care of Soldier's Graves.....	\$ 1,400

Ashley Falls Historic Dist. Comm.	\$ 500
Agricultural Commission.....	\$ 1,000
Interest on Loans.....	\$ 1
Berkshire County Retirement.....	\$294,953
Worker's Compensation.....	\$ 19,000
Insurance & Bonding.....	\$ 73,800
Group Health (32B) Insurance.....	\$490,000
Employer Medicare.....	\$ 30,000
Emergency Medical Services.....	\$ 6,000
Unemployment Compensation....	\$ 10,000

ARTICLE 2: On a motion by Nadine A. Hawver, seconded by Martin C. Mitsoff, to fix the compensation of the following elected officers of the Town for Fiscal Year 2023, as required by Chapter 41, Section 108 of the General Laws: Moderator, \$300; Selectmen, Chairman \$2,773; Selectmen, two members at \$2,401 each; Southern Berkshire Regional School District School Committee, 4 members at \$500 each. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 3: On a motion by Martin C. Mitsoff, seconded by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., to approve the Southern Berkshire Regional School District Operating and Transportation Budget for Fiscal Year 2023 and to vote to raise and appropriate \$7,512,518 to pay the Town's assessed share of that budget. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 4: On a motion by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., seconded by Rene C. Wood, to approve the Southern Berkshire Regional School District Roof and Boiler Debt for Fiscal Year 2023, and vote to raise and appropriate \$145,618 to pay the Town's assessed share of that debt. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 5: On a motion by Rene C. Wood, seconded by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., to approve the Southern Berkshire Regional School District Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2023, and vote to raise and appropriate \$145,090 to pay the Town's assessed share of the budget. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 6: On a motion by Martin C. Mitsoff, seconded by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., to raise and appropriate \$40,000 to pay for vocational education tuition in Fiscal Year 2023. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 7: On a motion by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., seconded by Rene C. Wood, to raise from Solid Waste Disposal Enterprise Fund Revenues \$150,300 for the disposal and management of solid waste and to authorize the Select Board to take any action to effectuate the purpose of this article, including but not limited to entering into agreements in excess of three years for such solid waste disposal and management. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 8: On a motion by Rene C. Wood, seconded by Martin C. Mitsoff, to accept funds being provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the provisions of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, to pay for such costs as allowed by appropriate legislation in connection with the maintenance, repair, and construction of Town ways and bridges. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 9: On a motion by Nadine A. Hawver, seconded by Rene C. Wood, to authorize the appointment of members of the Board of Selectmen to any office or position under its supervision at no additional compensation in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 268A, Section 21A of the General Laws. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 10: On a motion by Martin C. Mitsoff, seconded by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., to authorize the Board of Health to employ any of its members as Title 5 and Perc Test Witnesses for Septic System Inspections, and Sanitation Inspections under its supervision in accordance with G.L. c. 268A, Section 21A for Fiscal Year 2023 and to set the salary for those positions at \$40 per Title V Inspections and \$100 per Perc Tests in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 41, Section 4A. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 11: On a motion by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., seconded by Rene C. Wood, to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to sell, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, any parcel or parcels of real estate which have been or may be acquired through the foreclosure of tax title. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 12: On a motion by Rene C. Wood, seconded by Nadine A. Hawver, to transfer \$77,000 from Free Cash to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 6 of the General Laws, known as the Reserve Fund. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 13: On a motion by Martin C. Mitsoff, seconded by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr. to transfer \$750 from Free Cash to the Emergency Response Fund. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 14: On a motion by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., seconded by Martin C. Mitsoff, to raise and appropriate \$10,000 to compensate firefighters for training. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 15: On a motion by Rene C. Wood, seconded by Martin C. Mitsoff, to raise and appropriate \$15,000 for financial services, including but not limited to audits. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 16: On a motion by Martin C. Mitsoff, seconded by Nadine A. Hawver, to vote pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.44, §53E½, as most recently amended, to establish Fiscal Year 2023 spending limits for the revolving funds as set forth below:

Authorized Revolving Funds	Fiscal Year Expenditure Limit
Plumbing Inspector	\$25,000
Gas Inspector	\$20,000
Electrical Inspector	\$20,000
Fire Safety Inspector	\$20,000
Board of Health	\$25,000
Senior Transportation	\$15,000
Senior Center Programming	\$10,000
Tax Title Fees	\$10,000

The motion passed by majority.

ARTICLE 17: On a motion by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., seconded by Martin C. Mitsoff, Jr., transfer \$5,400 from Free Cash for Rest of River legal fees. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 18: On a motion by Rene C. Wood, seconded by Martin C. Mitsoff, to transfer the sum of \$18,000 from the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund for recycling programs/repairs at the Transfer Station, including any incidental and related costs. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 19: On a motion by Martin C. Mitsoff, seconded by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., to transfer \$200,000 from Free Cash for the purchase and equipping of a loader. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 20: On a motion by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., seconded by Rene C. Wood, to transfer \$30,000 from Free Cash for the purchase and equipping of a tractor. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 21: On a motion by Rene C. Wood, seconded by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., to transfer \$7,500 from Free Cash for cemetery repairs. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 22: On a motion by Martin C. Mitsoff, seconded by Nadine A. Hawver, to transfer \$106,973 from Free Cash for the third year payment of fire truck lease purchase financing agreement. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 23: On a motion by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., seconded by Martin C. Mitsoff, to transfer \$100,000 from Free Cash to the Fire Truck Stabilization Fund. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 24: On a motion by Rene C. Wood, seconded by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., to transfer \$100,000 from Free Cash into the General Stabilization Fund. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 25: On a motion by Martin C. Mitsoff, seconded by Rene C. Wood, to transfer \$55,000 from Free Cash for Town building repairs, improvements, equipping and furnishings to include but not be limited to the Town Hall, Library, Senior Center and Police Station, including any design and other costs and expenses incidental and related thereto. The motion passed by majority.

ARTICLE 26: On a motion by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., seconded by Martin C. Mitsoff, to transfer \$10,000 from Free Cash to purchase information technology hardware, software, and services, including any incidental or related costs, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any action to effectuate the purpose of the article, including but not limited to entering into agreements in excess of three years. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 27: On a motion by Rene C. Wood, seconded by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., to transfer \$250,000 from Free Cash for Police Department building repairs, improvements, equipping and furnishings, including any design and other costs and expenses incidental and related thereto. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 28: On a motion by Martin C. Mitsoff, seconded by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., to transfer \$40,000 from Free Cash for guardrail replacement. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 29: On a motion by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., seconded by Rene C. Wood, to transfer \$5,600 from Free Cash for the purchase and installation of a Welcome sign for the Village Green. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 30: On a motion by Rene C. Wood, seconded by Robert C. Kilmer, Jr., to amend the vote taken under Article 4 of the Special Town meeting held on April 4, 2022 to delete from therefrom the authorization to appropriate up to \$1,700 from the PEG Access and Cable Related Special Revenue Fund and to instead appropriate the sum of \$1,600 to be expended under the direction of the Select Board for such PEG access Services, this clarifying the amount of the appropriation authorized thereunder. *The motion passed by majority.*

ARTICLE 31: On a motion by Martin C. Mitsoff, seconded by Rene C. Wood, to pass over this article. The motion passed by majority. (see Article 31 of the Warrant for verbiage).

On a motion by Moderator William F. Tighe, seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Felecie Joyce, Town Clerk, CMMC